

Universal Waste

All Fort Monroe Commands, employees, tenants, and contractors are responsible for being aware of and complying with the federal, state, and local laws concerning disposal of certain waste. Universal Waste is regulated by 40 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 273 which includes fluorescent bulbs and batteries. Non-compliance may result in notices of violations (NOVs) to Fort Monroe, or fines up to \$32,500 per day per violation, or civil and/or criminal penalties and /or disciplinary actions to against the personnel who violate the law.

What is considered universal waste?

Universal waste is a sub-category of waste which includes items like fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, unused pesticides, mercury-containing thermostats and paint. However, by being classified as a universal waste, they are easier to manage than a hazardous waste.

Why does universal waste matter?

These wastes often have potentially hazardous substances in them that can have negative effects on the environment. These wastes contain lead, mercury, and phosphorous in them. As another example, car and boat batteries contain lead and sulfuric acid.

Universal Wastes at Fort Monroe and how to manage them.

Listed below are the types of light bulbs, batteries, and paint handled by the Directorate of Public Work Environmental Division as Universal Waste.

Bulbs. Used fluorescent, high intensity discharge, mercury halide, neon, high pressure sodium, ultraviolet, ARC and compact fluorescent bulbs. These must be taken to the Self Help Bldg. T-100 from 0800 hours until 1400 hours, except Tuesday and weekends, 788-2563. On Tuesday, they can be delivered from 0800 until 1300 hours. Tenants and Commands who generate a larger quantity of bulbs should bring their used bulbs to Self Help in containers-- preferably the box they came in. The box needs to be labeled "Used Lamps" or "Waste Lamps." The containers must be structurally sound, have no holes, and will not open if knocked over. The box must have a start date when the first bulb was placed in the box and a finish date when the box is full. Please do not allow used bulbs to remain in your facility more then 90 days. Contractors who are doing construction work on post need to coordinate with the Environmental Division at 788-5364 for proper recycling of their used lamps, ballast, and lighting fixtures

Batteries. These include Mercuric Oxide, Silver Oxide, NICAD, Lithium Metal Hydride, Nickel Iron, Zinc Carbon & Carbonaire Lithium Ion, and Lead Acid. Tenants, Commands, and contractors shall contact the Environmental Division at 788-5364 for recycling these types of used batteries. Fort Monroe residents should take used car and boat lead acid batteries to the Auto Craft Shop, Bldg. 218 (788-2311), or Roads and Grounds, Bldg. 57 (788-2617), for recycling. Regular alkaline batteries may be placed in the trash.

Paints are not Universal Waste, but are discussed because Fort Monroe is trying to properly manage all *Enamel, Latex, and Aerosol* paints. Fort Monroe residents, tenants, and Commands should take their excess paint to the Self Help Bldg. T-100 (788-2563) from 0800 hours until 1400 hours daily. Contractors are responsible for disposing of their own waste off-post and should not dump their paint containers in any Fort Monroe dumpsters or in the recycling yard.

Employees and military personnel who reside off-post may not bring in universal waste materials from home to discard on Fort Monroe—doing this is considered illegal dumping. Residents of Fort Monroe can use various programs provided by Fort Monroe for battery and bulb recycling. Off-post personnel and employees should manage their waste through local recycling programs provided by the Hampton Roads community. For more information, go to Hampton Roads HR Clean web site at http://www.hrclean.org/household_chemical_waste_collection.shtml